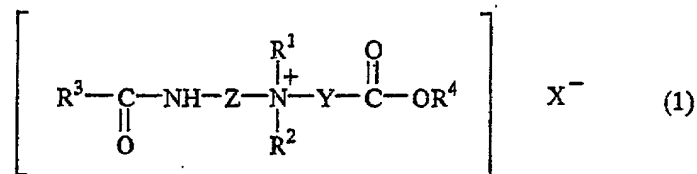


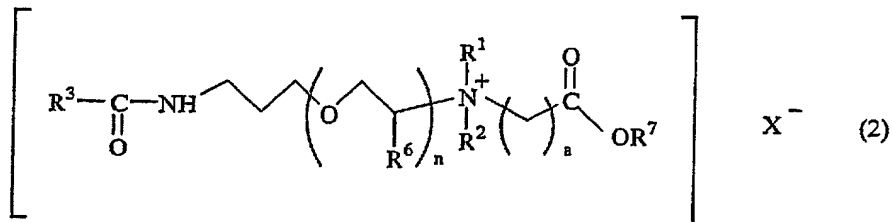
CLAIMS

1. A deodorant comprising a betaine ester represented by the following formula (1):



[wherein, R¹, R² and R³ each independently represents a hydrogen atom or a linear or branched C₁₋₃₆ alkyl or alkenyl group, Y represents a linear or branched C₁₋₄ alkylene group, Z represents a group represented by -R⁵(OA)_n- (in which, R⁵ represents a linear or branched C₁₋₃₆ alkylene group, A represents a linear or branched C₂₋₄ alkylene group and n stands for 0 to 10), R⁴ represents a residue left after removal of an OH from an alcohol compound having, in the molecule thereof, at least one hydroxyl group, and X⁻ represents an anion].

2. A deodorant composition of Claim 1, wherein the formula (1) is the following formula (2):



[wherein, R¹, R², R³, n and X⁻ have the same meanings as defined above, R⁶ represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl

group, a stands for 1 or 2, R⁷ represents a saturated or unsaturated aliphatic hydrocarbon or aromatic hydrocarbon group having 1 to 11 carbon atoms, a C₁₂₋₃₆ alkadienyl, alkatrienyl, aryl or arylalkyl group, or a monocyclic, dicyclic or tricyclic terpene hydrocarbon group, some of the hydrogen atoms on said hydrocarbon group of R⁷ may be substituted by a halogen atom or a hydroxyl group, or the methylene group in said hydrocarbon group of R⁷ may be substituted by a carbonyl group, an amide bond, an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, the methyl group may be substituted or unsubstituted by a formyl group or -CONH₂, the carbon-carbon double bond may be substituted by an epoxy group, or R⁷ may be either a single substance or a mixture].

3. A deodorant composition comprising the following components (a) and (b):

- (a) a deodorant as claimed in Claim 1, and
- (b) a functional perfume.

4. A hair cosmetic composition comprising a deodorant as claimed in Claim 1 or 2.

5. A hair cosmetic composition of Claim 4, containing the deodorant in an amount of 0.01 to 70 wt.%.

6. A hair cosmetic composition, comprising a deodorant composition of Claim 3 in an amount of 0.01 to 50 wt.%.

7. A body cosmetic composition, comprising a deodorant of Claim 1 or 2.

8. A body cosmetic composition of Claim 5, comprising a deodorant in an amount of 0.01 to 70 wt.%.

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